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some defects of style have been noted. The worst feature of the book, artistically considered, is that the paper on which it is printed is blotting-paper, on which it is impossible to use ink for making marginal notes. We must express regret, too, that the author did not avail himself of one hundred more pages of space, which would only then have brought his volume up to the size of Sanday's *Romans*, and would have made the work vastly better. There was great opportunity for a more detailed introduction, and for much more material in the commentary proper.

But Dr. Gould's *Commentary on Mark* is a large success, worthy to stand in the series to which it belongs, and a credit to American scholarship. It does not supersede other commentaries upon Mark for the reason that it is in no sense a thesaurus of investigation, interpretation and opinion with reference to the gospel. But it will be much more useful than any other single commentary on the book.

C. W. V.

The Critical Handbook of the Greek New Testament. By EDWARD C. MITCHELL, D.D. New and enlarged edition. New York, Harper & Bros. 1896, pp. 13 + 270. Price \$2.50.

The first edition of this work was published at Andover about fifteen years ago. The present edition though retaining the general plan of the former one has been so much enlarged as to constitute practically a new work. Part I is entitled Authenticity of the New Testament Scriptures; Part II, History of the Canon of the New Testament; Part III, History of the Text of the New Testament, while an appendix occupying ten pages more than the body of the book, contains thirteen valuable charts and tables.

Part I conveys in its 64 pages much valuable information clearly stated so far as the individual items are concerned. Its value, however, is much diminished by an apparent uncertainty on the writer's part as to the purpose which it was to serve. The variously used term authenticity is not defined, and the author seems himself to waver in his understanding of the now advancing evidence of the early origin of New Testament Scriptures, which would tend to prove the genuineness of the books now endeavoring to prove the early origin of Christianity, and thus apparently to show that the record is authentic. Much of the evidence might, of course, be used for either purpose, but the relation of the two themes is nowhere clearly stated. The treatment of the History of the Canon is very brief, occupying but 12 pages.

Part III occupying but 40 pages is necessarily a very condensed discussion of its subject, but is clear and informing. Its title, however, is hardly correct. It deals rather with the material for textual criticism of the New Testament and the method of such criticism than with the history of the text.

The Tables and Diagrams which constitute the second part of the volume will be very useful to the careful student of the Greek New Testament, chiefly indeed to a scholar, who no longer needs the body of the book, yet in some

degree also for the less advanced student. They bring together in convenient form for reference a large amount of information concerning the manuscripts of the New Testament and other authorities for the text and canon of the New Testament. While most of this information is to be found in books already published it is here tabulated in convenient form, and there are added some parts not previously published. American scholars will be especially grateful for the information, much of it new, concerning biblical manuscripts in America. If through the attention thus directed to the matter other such manuscripts shall be brought to light, especially if others shall be purchased for American libraries all New Testament scholars shall rejoice with Dr. Mitchell in this outcome of his labors.

Taken all together and despite the defects mentioned above the volume will be a very useful one to theological students, to busy ministers, and to laymen who, without being technical scholars, in exegesis or criticism, wish to know in a broad way what evidence there is that the books of the New Testament come from the first century and relate historical facts, and that the text possessed by us today is substantially the original text. The appendix contains much detailed information valuable to technical scholars, some of it not obtainable elsewhere.

The printers and binders have done their work admirably, and the proof-reading seems nearly perfect; a breathing omitted from a Greek word on p. 44 is the only slip we have noticed. Omissions and errors of a graver sort in a work involving so much detail could scarcely be escaped altogether, but could be detected only by a very minute examination by an expert authority. Two things the present writer may venture to note. On p. 42 the paragraph on the Ignatian letter gives the impression that sober scholarship accepts only the three letters of the Syrian text. But reference should certainly be made to the opinion of Zahn and Harnack, and especially to the great work of Light foot which, since its publication in 1885, has been very generally regarded as ending the controversy and establishing the genuineness of the seven letters in the shorter Greek form. The note on p. 248 is slightly inaccurate. The manuscript belonging to The University of Chicago, was *purchased through* Professor Caspar René Gregory. Would not *A Critical Handbook*, etc., have been as appropriate a title as *The Critical Handbook*? C. D. B.

A Life of Christ for Young People in Questions and Answers. By MARY HASTINGS FOOTE. New York: Harper & Bros., 1895. 12mo., pp. xvi + 281.

The subject is presented in 1839 questions with their answers arranged in sixty-one chapters; the contents and index and the good mechanical work give the book an appearance of neatness and convenience. The author well says in her preface: "The simple facts of Christ's life, if studied and intimately known, are more convincing and elevating than pages of so-called 'applications.'" That the method presented is the best adapted to securing